

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 089707
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA: MPALMER S/MS: JMJOYCE:GM
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
PM: LHGELB
S/MS: MDSHULMAN
S/S: DANDERSON

-----044283 071956Z /42
O 071944Z APR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 089707

NODIS
FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS - 3

TAGS: PARM, UR

SUBJECT: SALT, BACKFIRE

1. YOU SHOULD SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH KORNIYENKO AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS BACKFIRE. YOU SHOULD STRESS OUR STRONG DESIRE TO FIND A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. YOU SHOULD REITERATE THAT WE CONSIDERED THE SOVIET APPROACH SUGGESTED LAST SEPTEMBER A STEP FORWARD.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, AS THEY KNOW, OUR CONCERN OVER THE ISSUE CONTINUES. IN ADDITION TO THE ASSURANCES THE SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY OFFERED, WE BELIEVE THAT FURTHER DISCUSSION IS REQUIRED.

3. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS OUR DISAPP INTMENT WITH THE OUTRIGHT
SECRET

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SOVIET REJECTION OF OUR REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT EVEN GENERAL OGARKOV IN HIS MARCH 29 MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE WENT BEYOND THE SUBSTANCE OF THE SOVIET NOTE BY DISCUSSING BACKFIRE'S INCREASED CAPABILITIES, GIVEN IN-FLIGHT REFUELING.

4. YOU SHOULD INFORM KORN,YENKO THAT THIS ISSUE WILL BE ON
OUR AGENDA FOR THE SECRETARY'S UPCOMING VISIT, ALONG WITH
OTHER IMPORTANT SALT ISSUES. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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